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**By:**

Lynn Marcus-Wyner

A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIPET" is curved along the top inner edge. The text "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is curved along the bottom inner edge. In the center, the date "NOV 06 2000" is printed horizontally.

In re Application of

Nathaniel. T. Becker et al.

Serial No.: 09/285,632

Filed: April 2, 1999

For: **MODIFIED STARCH COATING**

Group Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: W. Benston Jr.

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NOV 09 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 10, 2000, please amend the above-referenced application as indicated below. This response is considered timely. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, until November 10, 2000, accompanies this communication.

Please add the following new claims:

22. A coating comprising,
- (i) a modified starch wherein the modification includes ethylation, acetylation, methylation, hydroxypropyl substitution, hydroxyethyl substitution, carboxymethyl substitution or hydroxypropyl methyl substitution;
- (ii) a plasticizer; and

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